

authorization pursuant to Section 7 of the Natural Gas Act.

Lois D. Cashell,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 97-15791 Filed 6-16-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. RP97-391-000]

Gas Research Institute; Notice of Annual Application

June 11, 1997.

Take notice that on June 10, 1997, Gas Research Institute (GRI) filed an application requesting advance approval of its 1998-2002 Five-Year Research, Development and Demonstration (RD&D) Plan and 1998 RD&D Program, and the funding of its RD&D activities for 1998, pursuant to the Natural Gas Act and Section 154.401(b) of the Commission's Regulations.

In its application, GRI requests approval of a total obligations budget of \$164.3 million in 1998, which is \$6.1 million less than the \$170.4 million approved for GRI's 1997 RD&D Program. Of this amount, GRI plans to obligate \$141.4 million to contract RD&D expenditures, while the remaining \$22.9 million will be obligated to administrative and general expenditures.

During the twelve months ending December 31, 1998, GRI expects to collect \$163 million from FERC-approved surcharges, and \$7 million from intrastate and other sources, for total receipts of \$170 million. GRI states that it intends to *disburse* this entire amount by the end of 1998. Accordingly, GRI plans to end 1998 with the same cash balance level of \$40 million it plans to have at the start of 1998.

GRI proposes to fund its 1998 RD&D Program using the following previously-approved (for 1997) surcharges: (1) A demand/reservation surcharge on two-part rates of 26.0 cents per Dth per Month for "high load-factor customers"; (2) a demand/reservation surcharge on two-part rates of 16.0 cents per Dth per month for "low load-factor customers"; (3) a volumetric commodity/usage surcharge of 0.88 cents per Dth for firm services involving two-part rates and for one-part interruptible rates; (4) a special "small customer" surcharge of 2.0 cents per Dth; and (5) a surcharge of 1.74 cents per Dth per month for one-part, firm service outside the "small customer" class.

Since it does not seek to change its surcharges for 1998, GRI asks that the Commission not require its member pipelines to file new tariff sheets to simply restate the currently effective surcharges.

The Commission staff will analyze GRI's application and prepare a Commission Staff Report. This Staff Report will be served on all parties and filed with the Commission as a public document by August 11, 1997. Comments on the Staff Report by all parties, except GRI, must be filed with the Commission on or before August 22, 1997. GRI's reply comments must be filed on or before August 29, 1997.

Any person desiring to be heard or to protest GRI's application, except for GRI members and state regulatory commissions, who are automatically permitted to participate in the instant proceedings as intervenors, should file a motion to intervene or protest with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426, in accordance with Rules 214 and 211 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, 18 CFR 385.214 and 385.211. All protests, motions to intervene and comments should be filed on or before June 25, 1997. All comments and protests will be considered by the Commission in determining the appropriate action to be taken, but will not serve to make protestants parties to this proceeding. Any person wishing to become a party, other than a GRI member or a state regulatory commission, must file a motion to intervene. Copies of this application are on file with the Commission and are available for public inspection.

Lois D. Cashell,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 97-15792 Filed 6-16-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket Nos. OA97-237-000, ER97-1079-000 and EC97-35-000]

New England Power Pool; Notice of Filing

June 11, 1997.

Take notice that on June 5, 1997, the New England Power Pool (NEPOOL) Executive Committee submitted materials related to its filing on December 31, 1996 in the captioned dockets. These materials describe the transmission charges that should be in

effect under the formula rates contained in the NEPOOL Open Access Tariff.

The NEPOOL Executive Committee states that copies of these materials were sent to protestants and persons seeking intervention in the captioned dockets, the New England state governors and regulatory commissions and the participants in the New England Power Pool.

Any person desiring to be heard or to protest said filing should file a motion to intervene or protest with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street NE., Washington, DC 20426 in accordance with Rules 211 and 214 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (18 CFR 385.211 and 18 CFR 385.214). All such motions or protests should be filed on or before June 20, 1997. Protests will be considered by the Commission in determining the appropriate action to be taken, but will not serve to make protestants parties to the proceeding. Any person wishing to become a party must file a motion to intervene. Copies of this filing are on file with the Commission and are available for public inspection.

Lois D. Cashell,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 97-15795 Filed 6-16-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6717-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. RP97-388-000]

Northern Natural Gas Co.; Notice of Proposed Changes in FERC Gas Tariff

June 11, 1997.

Take notice that on June 6, 1997, Northern Natural Gas Company (Northern), tendered for filing to become part of Northern's FERC Gas Tariff the following tariff sheets proposed to become effective on July 6, 1997:

Fifth Revised Volume No. 1

Second Revised Sheet No. 201

Original Sheet No. 302

Original Sheet No. 303

Northern states that the above-referenced tariff sheets amend the General Terms and Conditions of Northern's Tariff to allow Northern to acquire and hold interruptible contractual rights on other pipelines for transportation and storage capacity for the benefits of its shippers.

Northern states that copies of the filing were served upon Northern's customers and interested State Commissions.